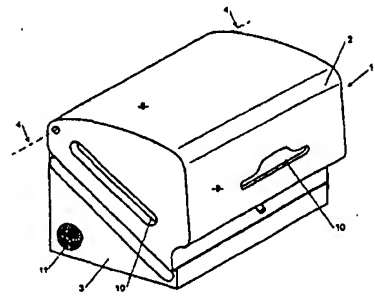




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IP Summary Report

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(22) NZ Filing date: 10 November 2000 (71) Applicant: GEOFFREY JOHN PEACOCK, 72 Tohunga Crescent, Parnell, Auckland, New Zealand (72) Inventor: Peacock, Geoffrey John Contact: A J PARK, 6th Floor, Huddart Parker Building, 1 Post Office Square, Wellington, New Zealand Journal: 1460	Date actions completed: Application Accepted 23 January 2001 Certificate Of Commissioner 05 December 2000	
Office title: Domestic lockable hinged lid courier delivery receptacle (54) Applicant title: A domestic courier delivery receptacle (57) Abstract: <p>A two-part, hinged locking receptacle 1 comprising a lid 2 and a tray 3 for receiving mail and other deliveries in a weather and theft resistant enclosure. The tray 3 forms the base, the back wall and side walls, and the lid 2, forms the top and front faces of the enclosure. Preferably the lid 2 is pivotally hinged on the tray 3 towards the upper region of the back wall. Lid 2 is movable between open and closed positions and lockable in the closed position. Lid 2 includes a slot opening 10 allowing substantially planar objects to be inserted in the enclosure when the lid 2 is in the closed and locked position. Fastening and mounting means are provided on the back wall and base. A drainage hole is located in the base of the tray and venting openings are located in the sidewalls.</p> Drawing: 		

**** End of report ****

NEW ZEALAND
PATENTS ACT, 1953

No:

Date: 10 November 2000

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

"A Domestic Courier Delivery Receptacle"

I, **GEOFFREY JOHN PEACOCK**, a New Zealand citizen of 72 Tohunga Crescent,
Parnell, Auckland, do hereby declare the invention for which we pray that a patent
may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly
described in and by the following statement:

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The present invention relates to a domestic courier delivery receptacle.

With the advent of the Internet, online shopping is becoming ever more popular. Such online shopping is also becoming popular for consumable products such as groceries and alcohol.

The normal process of online shopping includes a purchaser logging onto a website and selecting goods that he or she wishes to purchase. Upon credit card transaction taking place for the payment of the selected goods, the physical goods are then organised for delivery to a destination. More often than not in particular for consumable product, the destination is a residential address. With the convenience of online shopping, goods can be purchased by a purchaser online whilst they are absent from the delivery address. A person can during their lunchtime, whilst at work, arrange for groceries to be delivered to home so that when the purchaser arrives at home at the end of work, the groceries are already delivered.

The problem with having goods delivered to premises is that the goods are normally left either in the letterbox or on the doorstep if the purchaser is not home at the time. Issues have arisen as to who is responsible for the goods until they are physically in the hands of the purchaser. Whilst although they are left at the purchasers premises, there is the issue that when the goods are stolen from the premises, whether it is the purchaser or the seller that bears the cost of the stolen goods. It is to this extent that many retailers or delivery service companies are refusing to leave goods in an unsafe locate and unattended at the premises of a purchaser.

It is therefore an object of the present invention for the disadvantages of unsecured delivered goods to be overcome or which will at least provide the public with a useful choice.

Accordingly the present invention consists in a domestic courier delivery receptacle comprising;

- a tray which includes

- a base

- a back wall extending from said base,

- side walls extending from and between said base and said back wall,

a lid hingeably secured to said tray and moveable between two condition, a first condition wherein said tray and lid are in a closed arrangement to define an enclosed cavity, and a second condition wherein said tray and lid are in an open arrangement, wherein said lid is shaped to define a top wall and front wall of said receptacle when said lid is in said first condition

the tray is provided with a mounting region for mounting to a fixed structure (e.g. a wall or fence or floor or deck or ground or the like).

Preferably said lid is hingeably secured to the back wall of said base.

Alternatively said lid is hingeably secured to the base of said tray.

Preferably said hinge is provided to extend parallel to the plane of the back wall of the tray, and is provided towards the edge of the base away from where said back wall extends from said base.

Preferably when said lid is in said second condition, said lid is pivoted, it suspends substantially below said tray.

Preferably said base of said tray is substantially planar.

Preferably said base of said tray is substantially planar and provides minimal if no upstand at the edge thereof away from said back wall

Preferably if there is an upstand on the edge of said base away from said back wall, said upstand is less than one third the height of the back wall.

Alternatively said lid is hingeably secured to said tray at said back wall.

Preferably, in the alternative, the lid is hingeably secured to said back wall at or towards an upper most region thereof.

Preferably the pivot axis between said limb and said tray is substantially parallel to the plane of the back wall.

Preferably, in the alternative, the base is substantially planar and may include an upstand which is located along a front edge thereof being away from the edge where said back wall extends from said base, wherein the upstand is less than one third the height of the back wall.

Preferably said tray and said lid are capable of being locked together, in said first condition, by a locking mechanism which is manually actuatable from an unlocked to a

locked condition and which is key actuatable between said locked condition and said open condition.

Preferably said lid further includes a slot opening to allow for substantially planar objects to be inserted through said slot and into said receptacle, when for example the lid is in said first condition and locked with said tray.

Preferably, in an alternative, or in addition, said tray may include a slot for allowing a substantially planar object to be pushed therethrough, and into said receptacle.

Preferably said tray includes a vent opening.

Preferably said vent opening is provided in at least one of said side walls.

Preferably said tray also includes a drain opening provided in said base and provided in a location which will allow for any fluid which may be received by said tray, to be drained therefrom.

Preferably said mounting region is provided as the outwardly facing surface of the back wall of said tray.

Preferably said mounting region includes securing points which are for example holes provided through said back wall through which a fastening means can extend for allowing the receptacle to be fastened to a vertically extending fixed structure.

Preferably in an alternative, the mounting region of said receptacle is provided by the outwardly facing surface of the base.

Preferably in the alternative said mounting region includes mounting points which are for example apertures extending through said base through which fastening means can extend to be secured to a substantially horizontally extending fixed structure.

Preferably said lid also provides side walls to said receptacle, which are preferably parallel with the side walls of said tray.

This invention may also be said broadly to consist in the parts, elements and features referred to or indicated in the specification of the application, individually or collectively, and any or all combinations of any two or more of said parts, elements or features, and where specific integers are mentioned herein which have known equivalents in the art to which this invention relates, such known equivalents are deemed to be incorporated herein as if individually set forth.

The invention consists in the foregoing and also envisages constructions of which the following gives examples.

One preferred form of the present invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings in which;

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a receptacle of the present invention.

Figure 2 is a side view of a receptacle of the present invention wherein the lid and tray are shown in a first (closed) condition and wherein the receptacle is mounted against a substantially vertically extending structure,

Figure 3 is a view of the receptacle of Figure 2 wherein the lid is in a second (open) condition,

Figure 4 is a side view of an alternative arrangement of the receptacle of the present invention, in a closed condition,

Figure 5 is a side view of the receptacle of Figure 4 wherein it is in an open condition,

Figure 6 is a perspective view of the tray of the receptacle of the present invention.

With reference to Figure 1, there is provided a receptacle 1 which consists of a lid 2 and a tray 3. The lid 2 is hingeably secured to the tray 3 by a hinging mechanism which may be provided along the axis 4.

A pivoting of the lid relative to the tray along the axis 3 will move the lid between a closed condition as shown in Figure 1, to an open condition.

The receptacle of the present invention is adapted to be secured to a fixed structure. For example as shown in Figures 2 and 3, the receptacle is secured to a fixed structure which provides a vertical support surface such as a wall or post or the like.

Alternatively the receptacle of the present invention can be secured to a horizontal surface of a fixed structure such as a deck or the like.

The receptacle of the present invention is preferably provided so as to be reversible to allow for the hinging axis to be provided either at an upper most or towards an upper most region of the tray (Figures 2, 3) or towards an outer most region of the tray (Figures 4, 5).

Whilst herein reference is made to a base and back wall of the tray 3, as the

receptacle is preferably reversible, this terminology will also be reversible in respect of the location of the components of the tray referred to as the back wall and base. Nevertheless in respect of the tray as shown for example in Figure 6, there is provided a base 5 and a back wall 6. Both the base and the back wall are preferably of a planar shape however upstands such as reinforcing ribs or the like may be provided.

The base is preferably of a rectangular or square shape. Along the back edge of the base, there is provided the back wall which extends preferably at substantially 90° relative thereto.

Extending between the base and the back wall are side walls which preferably extend therebetween and are both located at substantially 90° to both the base and the back wall.

In the most preferred form the front edge of the base which runs preferably substantially parallel to the back edge, may be provided with an upstand such as for example an upstand 7. For practicality purposes, when is it desirable for the receptacle of the present invention to be loaded with goods, it is most convenient for this upstand to be of a minimal height. This will require minimal lifting of the goods over the upstand prior to them being lowered onto the base 5. To this extent in the most preferred form the upstand is of a height less than one third the height of the back wall 7.

The lid 2 is of a shape and configuration such that when it is in a closed condition, it defines a substantially enclosed cavity between itself and the tray 3. With reference to Figure 1, the lid 2 defines both an upper wall and forward wall of the enclosure defined between it and the receptacle. Although with reference to Figure 1, the upper wall and forward wall 8, 9 are relatively distinct, the upper and forward wall may be defined by a shape as for example shown in Figures 4 and 5 wherein the upper wall and forward wall is a continuous curve.

The forward wall forward most part of the lid, when the lid is in a closed condition, terminates substantially at or towards the front edge or the upstand 7 of the base.

The lid and/or the base may also be provided with an elongate opening such as a slot or slots 10. These elongate slots are of a shape sufficiently long and high to allow for a planar object such as a letter or courier pack to be inserted therethrough and to be

received within the cavity of the receptacle, when the receptacle is in the close condition.

Furthermore the lid and/or base may be provided with vent openings 11.

The lid is preferably also provided with a hand engageable region such as a handle portion which for example in Figure 1 is shown as illustrated to be part of the opening 10.

The base and/or the back wall may be provided with mounting positions such as openings 12 through which fastening means such as bolts or screws or the like can extend to allow for the tray to be secured to a fixed structure.

Preferably the base of the tray is also provided with a aperture through the wall thereof, wherein the aperture 13 is provided to allow for the tray to be self draining.

The receptacle is preferably securable in a locked condition when the lid and tray are in the first (close) condition. For this purpose, a locking mechanism is preferably provided. The locking mechanism is preferably of a kind which is moveable from an unlocked condition to a locked condition by manual operation by a user. Such manual operation may be for example by pushing the locking mechanism to the locked condition. The locking mechanism is preferably of a kind which to move it from its locked condition to an unlocked condition requires the use of a key or pin or code number or the like.

In this respect, the receptacle can be left in an unlocked condition and when goods are received by the receptacle and the lid is moved to a closed condition, the lock can then be pushed or moved to a locked condition without the use of a key, by for example a delivery person. The goods contained within the cavity of the receptacle are then in a secured condition until such time a person authorised to open to the receptacle, opens the locking mechanism by the key or the like.

The advantage of the receptacle of the present invention is to provide a means for receiving and securely retaining goods.

In the most preferred form the material used for the receptacle of the present invention is a plastics material. The material that may be used could be a composite material and for example the receptacle may be defined as a multi wall and insulated receptacle.

The exterior surface of the receptacle is preferably of a U.V. and weather tolerant material.

CLAIMS

1. A domestic courier delivery receptacle comprising;
 - a tray which includes
 - a base
 - a back wall extending from said base,
 - side walls extending from and between said base and said back wall,
 - a lid hingeably secured to said tray and moveable between two condition, a first condition wherein said tray and lid are in a closed arrangement to define an enclosed cavity, and a second condition wherein said tray and lid are in an open arrangement, wherein said lid is shaped to define a top wall and front wall of said receptacle when said lid is in said first condition

the tray is provided with a mounting region for mounting to a fixed structure (e.g. a wall or fence or floor or deck or ground or the like).
2. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in claim 1 wherein said lid is hingeably secured to the base of said tray.
3. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in claim 1 or 2 a hinge is provided for said lid to extend parallel to the plane of the back wall of the tray, and is provided towards the edge of the base away from where said back wall extends from said base.
4. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein when said lid is in said second condition, said lid is pivoted, to suspend substantially below said tray.
5. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein said base of said tray is substantially planar.
6. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein said base of said tray is substantially planar and provides minimal if no upstand at the edge thereof away from said back wall
7. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6 wherein if there is an upstand on the edge of said base away from said back wall, said upstand is less than one third the height of the back wall.

8. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in claim 1 wherein said lid is hingeably secured to said tray at said back wall.
9. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in claim 8 wherein the lid is hingeably secured to said back wall at or towards an upper most region thereof.
10. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in claim 8 or 9 wherein the pivot axis between said lid and said tray is substantially parallel to the plane of the back wall.
11. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in any one of claims 8 to 10 wherein the base is substantially planar and may include an upstand which is located along a front edge thereof being away from the edge where said back wall extends from said base, wherein the upstand is less than one third the height of the back wall.
12. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 11 wherein said tray and said lid are capable of being locked together, in said first condition, by a locking mechanism which is manually actuatable from an unlocked to a locked condition and which is key actuatable between said locked condition and said open condition.
13. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 12 wherein said lid further includes a slot opening to allow for substantially planar objects to be inserted through said slot and into said receptacle, when for example the lid is in said first condition and locked with said tray.
14. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 13 wherein said tray includes a slot for allowing a substantially planar object to be pushed therethrough, and into said receptacle.
15. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 14 wherein said tray includes a vent opening.
16. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in claim 15 wherein said vent opening is provided in at least one of said side walls.
17. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 16 wherein said tray also includes a drain opening provided in said base and provided in a location which will allow for any fluid which may be received by said tray, to be drained therefrom.

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18. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 17 wherein said mounting region is provided as the outwardly facing surface of the back wall of said tray.
19. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in claim 18 wherein said mounting region includes securing points which are for holes provided through said back wall through which a fastening means can extend for allowing the receptacle to be fastened to a vertically extending fixed structure.
20. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 17 wherein a mounting region of said receptacle is provided by the outwardly facing surface of the base.
21. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in claim 26 wherein said mounting region includes mounting points which are for example apertures extending through said base through which fastening means can extend to be secured to a substantially horizontally extending fixed structure.
22. A domestic courier delivery receptacle as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 21 wherein said lid also provides side walls to said receptacle, which are preferably parallel with the side walls of said tray.

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DATED THIS 10th DAY OF November 2000
AJ PARK
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AGENTS FOR THE APPLICANT

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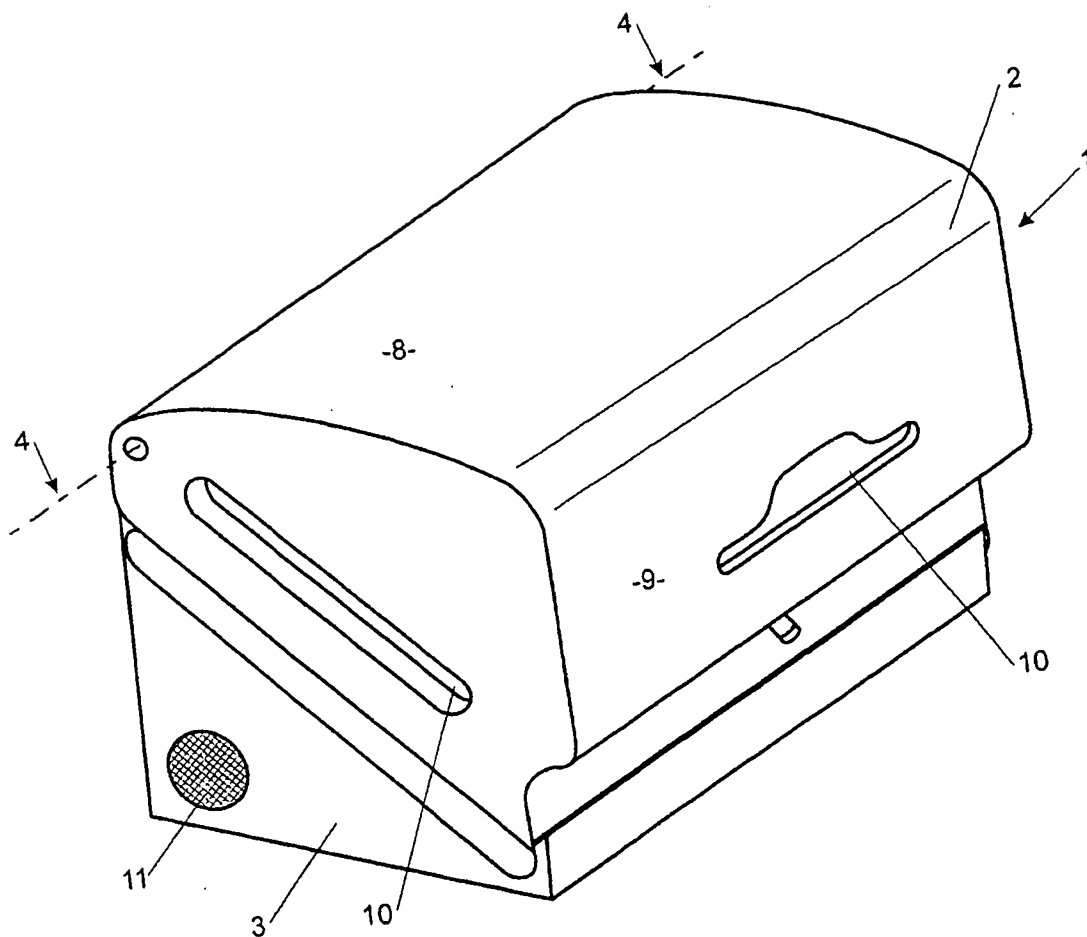


FIGURE 1

2 / 4

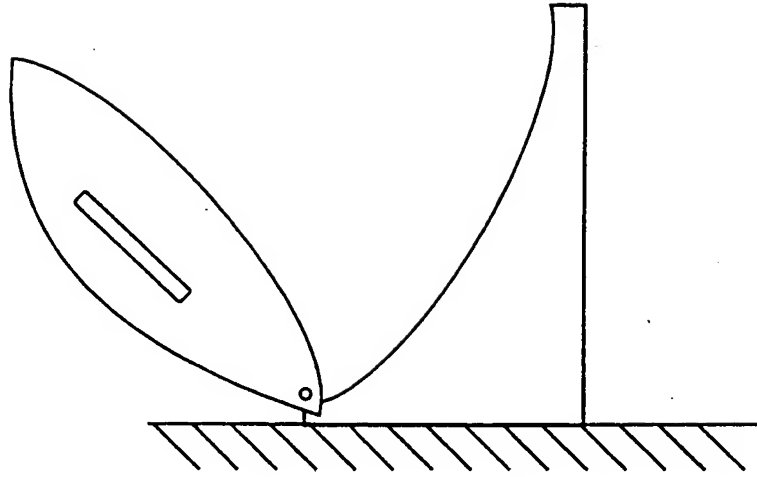


FIGURE 3

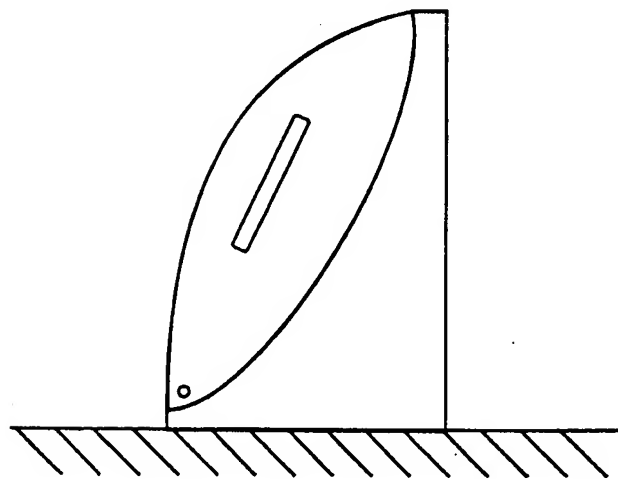


FIGURE 2

3 / 4

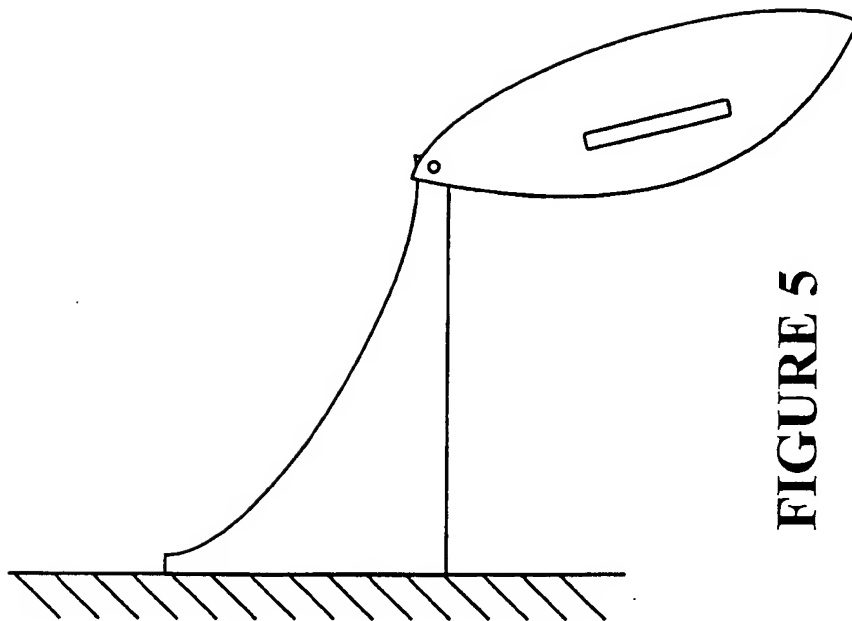


FIGURE 5

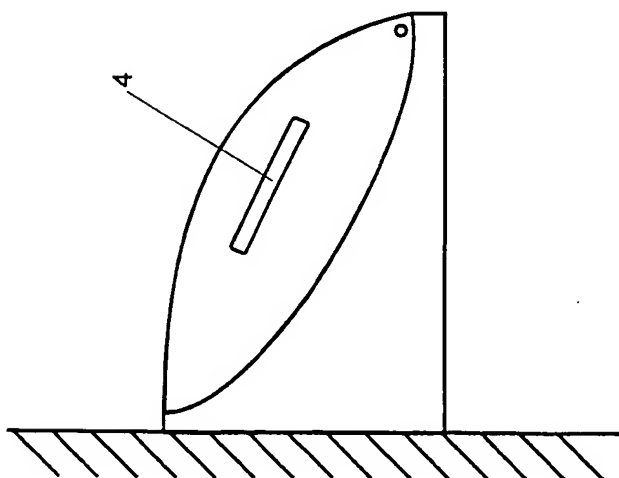


FIGURE 4

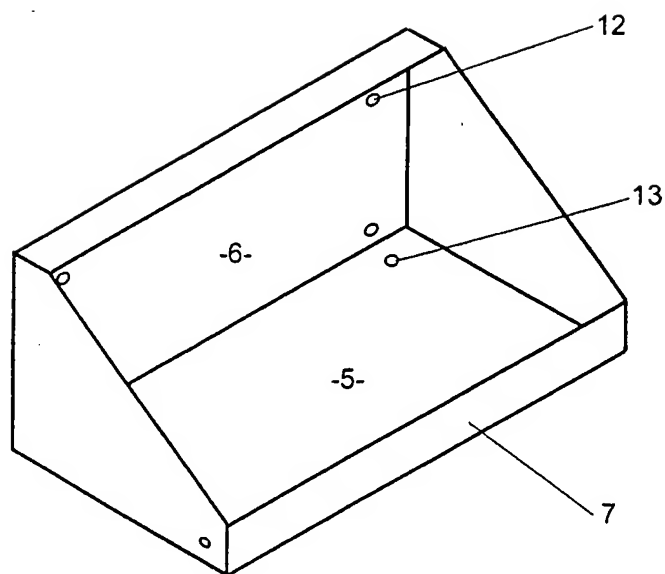


FIGURE 6